6/1/81

Dear David,

I had two reasons for suggesting to Paul Valentine that he call you. One, the chance that you could help him with his story and two, an introduction for you to the Post for the appearance of your book. It may even be given to him to review because most of those who wrote about King have died or retired, which leaves Paul, as the King assassination expert a kind of staff expert. He is a good friend, a good person and a good reporter.

If the book is assigned to Lardner, he may try to duck it, but Paul's contact with you won't hurt.

Jim and I figured that the FBIHQ King "security" file had been released to you from the nature of the letter the FBI wrote me, referring to my ignored request of 1977, which includes more than it. Last year they disclosed the HQ SCLC file, I now suppose to you. I've appealed the fee waiver revocation and until it is acted on I can't do much because I can't afford to pay for any.

I was responsible for Lardner's piece but only in the sense of letting him know of the existence of the crazy letter to Mark Allen.

I hear that Blakey was even more excited than his childishness about me would indicate and that he called Stokes up about it. What I hear is that Stokes told him to get fucked.

I don't know what Blakey could have expected of Stokes now or about the content of the story.

Maybe he is also disappointed because his book si a bomb, as inevitably it will be.

Hope your book comes out on time and does well,

best,